

Message Text

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ORIGIN EA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 ITF-01 SCA-01 SSO-00 AF-06 ARA-06

EUR-12 NEA-09 SR-02 ORM-01 VO-03 SCS-03 AID-05 OPR-02

L-02 H-02 DPW-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 INR-07 NSAE-00

NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 INSE-00 /107 R

DRAFTED BY EA/VN:LLPETERS:BK

APPROVED BY IATF:AMBASSADOR BROWN

EA/VN:RHWENZEL

SCA:LFWALENTYNOWICZ (DRAFT)

EA:PCHABIB

S/S-O:L. MATTESON

----- 069256

P 271549Z APR 75

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO ALL DIPLOMATIC AND CONSULAR POSTS PRIORITY

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INFORM CONSULS

E.O. 11652: NA

TAGS: CVIS, SREF, VS

SUBJECT: VIET-NAM EVACUATION REQUESTS

REF: STATE 92867

FOR PRINCIPAL OFFICER

REQUEST DISSEMINATION TO AID, CONSULS, PERSONNEL OFFICERS

1. REFTEL ADVISED THAT MESSAGES SUGGESTING LISTS OF
VIETNAMESE NATIONALS FOR EVACUATION PURPOSES WERE NOT TO BE
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FORWARDED TO SAIGON. HOWEVER VARIOUS EMBASSIES AND OTHER

POSTS HAVE CONTINUED TO FORWARD SUCH REQUESTS EITHER TO SAIGON OR HERE TO THE DEPARTMENT.

2. IN ORDER TO UNDERSTAND THE MAGNITUDE OF THE PROBLEM THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION MAY BE OF INTEREST. THERE ARE AT PRESENT OVER 12,000 VIETNAMESE PERMANENT RESIDENT ALIENS IN THE U. S.; THERE ARE OVER 3,000 NATURALIZED U. S. CITIZENS OF VIETNAMESE ORIGIN; THERE ARE ALSO SOME 14,000 VIETNAMESE HERE IN NONIMMIGRANT STATUS, MAINLY IN DIPLOMATIC AND STUDENT CATEGORIES. ALL OF THESE PERSONS ARE LEGITIMATELY CONCERNED ABOUT THE WELFARE OF THEIR FAMILIES IN VIET-NAM.

3. IN ADDITION THERE ARE HUNDREDS OF THOUSANDS OF AMERICANS WHO HAVE SERVED IN VIET-NAM OR KNOWN VIETNAMESE IN THE U. S., MANY OF WHOM ARE ANXIOUS TO INCLUDE THEIR FRIENDS, FORMER EMPLOYEES, ETC. IN "EVACUATION LISTS."

4. SPECIAL PAROLE AUTHORITY HAS BEEN GRANTED FOR CERTAIN CATEGORIES OF PERSONS, WHICH WERE PARTICULARLY DESCRIBED IN PRIOR CABLES AND INCLUDE 50,000 "HIGH RISK" VIETNAMESE. FAR MORE THAN 50,000 PERSONS HAVE BEEN ASSOCIATED WITH AMERICANS DURING THIS LONG STRUGGLE.

5. ANY EVACUATION CAN BE CARRIED OUT ONLY WITH THE COOPERATION OF THE GVN AND WILL NECESSITATE GREAT EFFORT ON THE PART OF THE EMBASSY. SINCE THE EMBASSY IS ALSO UNDER INSTRUCTIONS TO REDUCE THE SIZE OF ITS OWN STAFF, IT IS IMPERATIVE THAT MESSAGES TO SAIGON CONCERNING INDIVIDUALS TO BE EVACUATED BE REDUCED TO THE ABSOLUTE MINIMUM AND TO THOSE VIETNAMESE AND THEIR IMMEDIATE FAMILIES WHO ARE CLEARLY "HIGH RISK." THESE NORMALLY WOULD BE RESTRICTED, THEREFORE, TO GVN EMPLOYEES OR USG EMPLOYEES.

6. INSTRUCTIONS CONTAINED IN REFTEL INDICATED THAT VIETNAMESE PERMANENT RESIDENT ALIENS AND NATURALIZED U. S. CITIZENS SHOULD FILE APPROPRIATE DOCUMENTS WITH INS. THOSE NAMES ARE BEING CABLED TO EMBASSY SAIGON. IN ADDITION WE HAVE NOW EVOLVED THE FOLLOWING PROCEDURE FOR COPING WITH THE MOUNTING REQUESTS IN THE U. S:

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"THE LOCAL OFFICE OF THE IMMIGRATION AND NATURALIZATION SERVICE IS PREPARED TO TAKE THE NAMES AND ADDRESSES OF VIETNAMESE NATIONALS IN VIET-NAM WHOM INDIVIDUALS IN THE U. S. WISH THE EMBASSY TO ASSIST. THE INFORMATION CANNOT PRESENTLY BE FORWARDED TO THE EMBASSY IN SAIGON, SINCE THE SITUATION THERE IS EXTREMELY UNSETTLED. ONLY THE EMBASSY IS IN A POSITION TO DETERMINE THE EVACUATION PRIORITY TO NON-AMERICANS. IF CONDITIONS IMPROVE SO THAT THE EMBASSY

IS ABLE TO HANDLE THE REQUESTS, THEY WILL BE FORWARDED.
BUT NEITHER THIS DEPARTMENT NOR THE IMMIGRATION SERVICE
CAN GUARANTEE THE EMBASSY WILL BE ABLE TO MAKE CONTACT
WITH VIETNAMESE REGISTERED OR BE ABLE TO ASSIST THEM IN
LEAVING THE COUNTRY."

7. DEPARTMENT REQUESTS THAT ALL ELEMENTS OF ALL U. S.
MISSIONS ABROAD REFRAIN FROM OVERBURDENING SAIGON WITH
ADDITIONAL REQUESTS FOR ASSISTANCE. IF APPROPRIATE DOCU-
MENTS ARE FILED, EMBASSY SAIGON WILL MAKE EVERY EFFORT
ASSIST RELATIVES AS IT BECOMES POSSIBLE. KISSINGER

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